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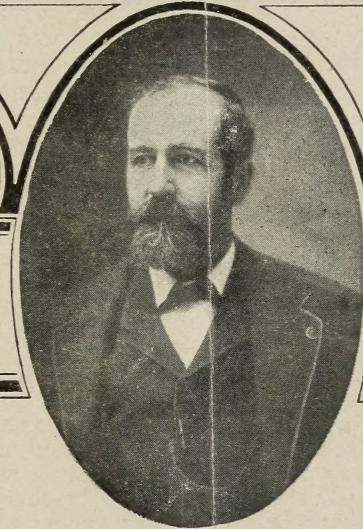
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CRETE NURSERIES

CRETE, NEBRASKA

Established In Nebraska 1872

Thirty-Nine Years In Horticulture



PRICE LIST OF CHOICE GRADES OF NURSERY STOCK

The writer came to Nebraska in October, 1871, with the fixed purpose of engaging in commercial orcharding. While waiting for the orchards to attain bearing age, it seemed natural to engage in nursery work. Once entered upon this absorbing line of study, I have not found a stopping place.

The orchards have expanded from the eighty acres growing on the old 240-acre farm by the addition of 50,000 additional trees in branch partnership orchards, extending from the eastern portion of Nebraska out through central Nebraska and up to within one mile of the Wyoming line.

Without taking into account the fruit sold from these partnership branch orchards in which we have a half interest for a term of years, the home sales of fruit last season, was \$11,500. We may mention 39 bushels gathered from one tree, the product from this single tree selling for more than \$25.

This crop has been developed not as an accidental yield, but by first planting good trees and suitable varieties; second, persistent annual cultivation; third, by the use of power spraying machinery for twenty years, with free use of stable manure, straw mulching of the row and annual pruning.

THE BUSINESS GREW.

My first large contract was the planting of 750,000 forest trees for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. The publicity attendant upon the success of this, my first large contract, enabled the business to increase so rapidly that we moved from Orchard Farm to Crete, establishing the office, packing house, delivery grounds and small fruit plantations within reach of quick express and freight service.

In addition to the home farm of 240 acres, a tract of 240 acres near town was rented for a long term of years to secure room for growing additional nursery stock.

THIRTEEN MILLIONS OF TREES

During the operations of the timber claim law the Nursery raised and sold thirteen and one-half millions of forest trees in one season; a number sufficient to plant fifty rows of shade trees, eight feet apart in the row, across the state of Nebraska.

OLDEST NURSERY BUSINESS IN NEBRASKA.

Years went by and the other firms which had been in business when we began, discontinued or moved away. We have the **oldest nursery business** in the state.

SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

The original cherry orchard produced 700 bushels of cherries in one season, single trees produced at the age of eight years 120 quarts, and single trees produced at the age of eighteen years 100 quarts.

As early as 1891 the apple orchard produced 13,000 bushels in one season. The home orchard produced a paying crop the unfavorable year of 1907; in 1908 from a little less than two-fifths acre we picked 310 bushels of Grimes Golden; in 1909, we secured the largest crop in the history of the orchard.

Having used power sprayers for twenty years, we have demonstrated that it is entirely practicable to grow profitable crops of apples and other fruits in Nebraska.

The fruit belt is still moving westward. Healthy young orchards in western Nebraska are producing fruit that is an inspiration. The branch orchard of David Hunter, at Sutherland, Nebraska, 318 miles west of Omaha, planted with Crete Nurseries' trees, has yielded seven crops of cherries and plums, six crops of peaches, and last season yielded 10,000 bushels of apples. This orchard is known for 200 miles up and down the Platte as the most successful orchard in the district.

The Ed. Scriven orchard in Scotts Bluff county, twenty miles from the Wyoming line, supplied by Crete Nurseries, has borne fruit each season since the trees were four years old. This orchard rarely fails to give an abundant supply of fruit for family use and a surplus for sale.

From the four-year-old orchard of G. A. Royce, one mile from the Wyoming line, \$267.00 worth of plums were sold in the season of 1909.

Of 2,400 trees planted in one orchard in Custer county for which we selected the varieties, but twenty-seven were lost. These are but three of the thousands of bearing orchards we have supplied in all parts of the West.

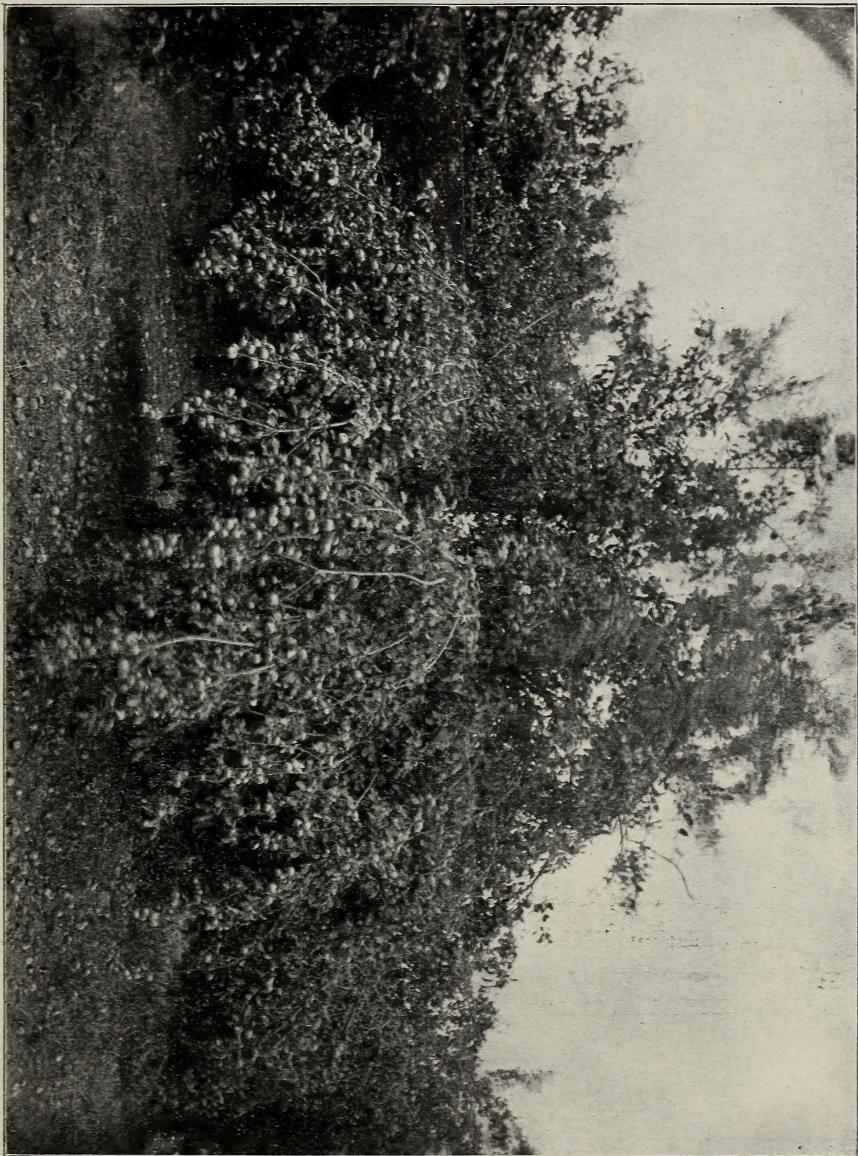
THE THREE ESSENTIALS.

Not from theory, but from actual fruiting of our trees in all parts of Nebraska, some of them under the most adverse conditions, we have come to believe that any man can raise fruit if he begins with—

1st—Carefully Grown Trees.

OUR COUPONS SAVE TEN PER CENT

Wealthy Appletree, Part of the Northeast Orchard, Connected with Crete Nurseries.
Yield 110 Bushels Annually. Cultivated 12 to 20 Times With Disc Harrow and Acme Pulverizer.



2nd—Hardy Varieties Adapted to His Locality
and follows with—

3rd—Good Care.

Taking these points in inverse order,

DON'T ORDER FROM US

unless you intend to give your trees good care. Neglect kills more trees than any other cause. The results disappoint you, and do not increase our trade. Frankly, we do not seek the trade of the careless planter.

Is there a more pitiful sight than a tree dying for lack of care? Every tree, bush and shrub in this catalog is the result of thoughtful study and careful culture. We have done our part and urge you to do yours.

A PRACTICAL SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE.

Twenty-one years ago we engaged in planting timber claims on four year warranted contracts. We assumed all the expense, risk and care incident to growing the trees, and enabled our patrons to secure patents on the land. We had 2,500 acres under cultivation at one time. We also planted contract orchards for farmers, doing all the work for three years.

The experience we gained was invaluable. We thoroughly learned Nebraska's peculiar requirements in every locality from east to west and from north to south. We are now engaged in planting large **contract branch commercial orchards**; many of them containing thousands of trees. They extend in thirteen divisions from the Missouri River to the Wyoming line, and from one mile of the corner of Cherry county down into southern Nebraska. Our success with these orchards has been wonderful. We secured exceptional stands and the trees came into bearing with a rapidity and fruitfulness that surprised and delighted our patrons. We are growing fruit in commercial quantities in far western Nebraska where it was formerly deemed impossible. We are succeeding abundantly where others have repeatedly failed.

Why?

HARDY VARIETIES AND CAREFUL CULTURE.

Because our long experience enables us to recommend the proper varieties adapted to each locality, and the peculiar methods of culture that insure success.

I wish we knew how to emphasize this point so it would ring in the ears of every intending planter. Some varieties will succeed in Nebraska. Others will not. And of the two lists, the latter is by far the longer.

NEBRASKA IS PECULIAR.

Varieties that succeed along the Missouri River fail in the western part of the state. Some kinds that do well in southern counties are not adapted to the northern. And a long list of the old favorites in the East and South are out of the question here.

VALUABLE EXPERIENCE FREE.

Probably 90 per cent of our customers ask us to select their varieties for them, feeling that we have had invaluable experience while growing up with Nebraska; in serving five consecutive terms as president of the Nebraska State Horticultural Society; and in planting extensively in different localities under varying conditions. Let us work together for success.

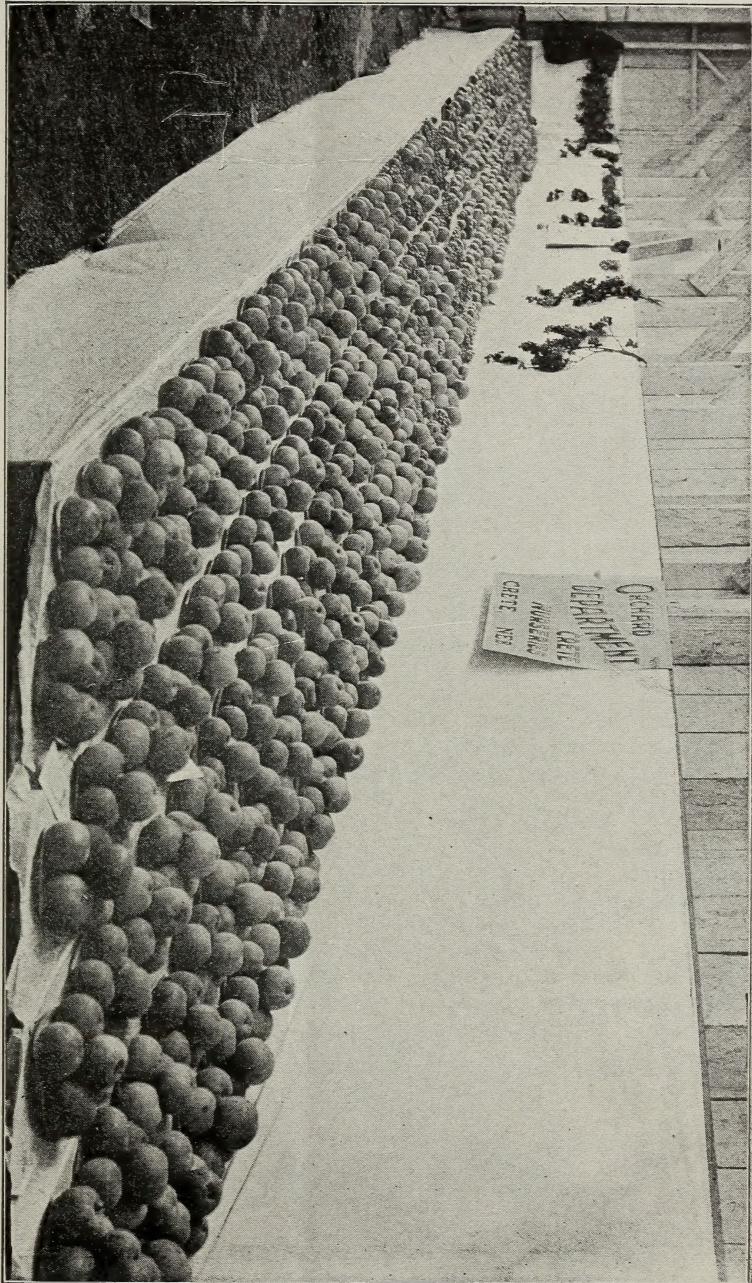
"I am over 81 years old and have set out four orchards. I must say that the trees received from the Crete Nurseries are the finest I ever saw. They are all doing well."

E. B. WEST. Custer County.

OUR COUPONS SAVE TEN PER CENT

CRETE NURSERIES EXHIBIT AT NEBRASKA STATE FAIR.

Our Fruit Won 58 Premiums in 1905; the Largest Number Awarded to Any Exhibitor. We Exhibited Eighty-Nine Varieties of Fruit in the Unfavorable Year of 1907, and 130 Varieties in 1908, and 184 Varieties in 1909, Winning 67 Premiums Thereon in 1909; also Bronze Medal at Paris Exposition in 1900; Gold Medal at St. Louis Exposition in 1904.



Extra Select Stock of Greatest Importance

NECESSARY TO READ THIS TO UNDERSTAND OUR CATALOG.

In a long nursery experience nothing has surprised us more than the idea some people have that cheap, inferior nursery stock will do to plant. The desire we all have to buy as reasonably as possible is legitimate, but to buy cheaply at the expense of quality is folly.

You plant a tree not in the hope of raising fruit tomorrow, but in years to come. You expect to cultivate, prune and care for it. The work of planting, cultivating and bringing into bearing inferior varieties is just as great as that devoted to the planting of the best and most successful.

Our older orchards have been planted thirty-seven years and they give promise of many years of continued fruitfulness.

THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST.

In planting a large number of successful orchards and millions of forest trees on contracts, we have found that the best and strongest trees are by far the most successful and desirable.

Tree Breeding

The cheapest way to propagate apple trees for example, is to secure scions from blocks of young nursery stock where they can be cut rapidly. These young trees, however, are like young children—their future quality and productive capacity are unknown.

We are cutting scions from the **fruitful trees in our well known productive orchard.**

Why?

THE NEWEST HORTICULTURE.

Because trees can not only transmit hereditary traits like human beings; but by careful selection we can eradicate objectionable characteristics and build up better types.

From one tree we picked thirty-nine bushels of fine apples. These trees are triumphs of horticultural skill, as Nebraska's famous steer, Challenger, was a triumph of scientific stock breeding.

The wisdom of propagating from trees of such wonderful capacity is at once apparent. Their tendency to extreme fruitfulness is transmitted to all their posterity. The same principle that makes it essential for farmers to perpetuate their best strains of stock, renders it imperative for nurserymen to propagate from their most productive trees.

A WIDE LIST.

We have over one hundred varieties of apples bearing in our orchards. We also market the product of many varieties of plums, peaches, cherries, and small fruits.

We are selecting to obtain strains of each variety combining three essential and desirable characteristics—**HARDINESS, VITALITY** and **FRUITFULNESS**. So we move forward, ever progressing toward the ideal type.

This Catalogue Describes Desirable Varieties Only

Every tree, bush and shrub in this list, is the best we have and worth the money.

This list has our reputation behind it. The stock is the product of thirty-seven years experience; is of extra quality, well branched, heavily rooted, and **WILL GROW** and **PRODUCE FRUIT**.

THRIFTY TWO-YEAR APPLE TREES—CRETE NURSERIES. Note their Exceptional Health and
Trees Bred to Bear Fruit.



WE PRESERVE THE VITALITY.

Most nurseries dig their trees in the fall and pile them up in tree cellars with the roots more or less exposed to the drying effects of the air. **We bury them completely in earth; root, body and branch.** It costs us about four times as much to follow this extremely careful method; but thirty-seven years' experience has proven that our thoroughly protected trees have **TWICE THE VITALITY** of trees piled up in root cellars.

We go to this added expense for your benefit. We appreciate its significance. Do you?

PREMIUMS AND MEDALS.

The Orchard Department of Crete Nurseries has for years won numerous premiums at the Nebraska State Fair. In 1905 we won 58 premiums; the largest number awarded to any exhibitor. In the off year of 1907 we exhibited 89 varieties and won fifty premiums.

In 1908, we won 48 first premiums, winning all of the larger premiums in the fruit class. In 1909, we won 67 premiums.

We were awarded a **BRONZE MEDAL** for fruit at the **PARIS EXPOSITION** in 1900, and a **GOLD MEDAL** at **ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION** in 1904.

At the Columbian Exposition it was conceded that Nebraska apples had the best flavor. You are proud of the fact that Nebraska fruit ranks among the best in the world and we rejoice in the fact that the **CRETE NURSERIES** can help you to produce it.

Apple Trees--Extra Select Stock

"Odors of apples! Trees bursting with bloom!

Is there so pungent, so rare a perfume?

Essence of sunshine, of dew and of rain,

Fragrance of flowers and spice of the plain.

Here's to the apple, our tastes vindicate!

The queen of the orchard, the pride of our state."

Fort Collins.

MRS. L. G. CARPENTER.

That the apple is king of fruits is evidenced not only by its general popularity, but by its marvelous productiveness.

In the frosty year of 1908, we picked 310 bushels of apples from a little less than two-fifths of an acre.

In another orchard, we gathered 27 bushels from one tree. The Duchess of Oldenburg apple one season yielded 280 bushels of hand picked apples on one-quarter of an acre; the product selling for \$210.

Another variety gave an average yield for three years in succession at the rate of 1,500 bushels per acre; this on ground receiving special care. Entire orchards have yielded for us more than 400 bushels per acre.

EARLY RETURNS.

In the David Hunter orchard, supplied by us and in which we have a half interest for a term of years, 318 miles west of Omaha, apple trees yielded one bushel and three pecks the fifth season after planting, and in 1909, the thirteenth season, single trees gave twenty bushels, 10,000 bushels from the orchard.

"I received the trees yesterday in good condition and just the varieties I ordered. I am sending money order herewith."

Richland County.

JOHN MACA.

FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE

John Blackburn, in west central Nebraska, picked and sold 604 bushels of apples for \$489; grown on 95 trees. At Mitchell, within twenty miles of the Wyoming line, Ed. Scriven sold \$9.00 worth of Wealthy apples from a single tree in spite of the sleet storm of April 29th that covered the trees with ice.

A GOOD RATE OF INTEREST.

In good season, the orchards will take care of themselves, therefore, we have selected one of the years known to all as one of Nebraska's unfortunate seasons. During the drouth year of 1894, from six and one-half acres, called our south central orchard, we marketed 2,500 bushels of apples. This crop sold for \$1,400, an average of \$216 per acre. Corn would require from ten to fifteen years to produce as much money from one acre of ground. This crop, \$216 from one acre, is more than 10 per cent interest on a valuation of \$2,000 per acre, thus rivaling reports from Colorado and the Pacific Coast.

IRONCLAD VARIETIES FOR NORTHERN AND FAR WESTERN PLANTING.

YELLOW TRANSPARENT.—Russian. Medium size, pale yellow, juicy, sub-acid. August.

DUCHESS OF OLDENBURG.—Large; yellow with red streaks; very productive, perfectly hardy, best for cooking. August.

WEALTHY.—Minnesota origin; very hardy and free grower; fine quality; very productive. October.

PATTEN'S GREENING.—Origin Iowa. Exceptionally hardy and productive. November.

LONGFIELD.—Russian. Bears young and freely. Medium size and fine quality. October.

IOWA BLUSH.—Tree extremely vigorous. Fine flavor, medium size. January.

NORTHWESTERN GREENING.—Wisconsin origin. Tree vigorous, healthy; continuous bearer. Fruit large to very large yellowish green. Late keeper. December.

FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN NEBRASKA.

RED JUNE.—Reasonably hardy. Deep red with fine flavor. Small size. August.

BEN DAVIS.—Large, handsome; fair quality. Usually healthy. Productive.

WINESAP.—Medium size, deep red, good keeper. Moderate grower. Suffers from scab unless sprayed with Bordeaux.

BLACK BEN DAVIS, GRIMES GOLDEN, GANO and others suited to this district.

TREES THAT WILL PLEASE.

Do not confuse our stock with less carefully propagated trees such as are often sold at seemingly low price. Every tree is of such constitution, health and quality as will speak for itself on arrival, and bear fruit in years to come.

HIGHER VALUES IN APPLE TREES.

The farmer now receives three times as much for corn, twice as much for wheat as fifteen years ago. The cost of nursery labor has increased 50 to 100 per cent. There is this season a surprising increase in the demand for apple trees. The Interior Basin and the Pacific Coast demand and are planting by the million. There is really a surprising shortage in apple trees, both by reason of the lessened supply in the country and the very greatly increased demand.

The rates at which apple trees were sold a few years ago, no longer pay expenses under present conditions. Notwithstanding these reasons, which would justify a sharp advance in values and prices, you will note that we are

quoting practically the same rates as in years gone by; this is to make sure of placing our large stock of trees.

We are planting 410 acres of apple orchard near Nampa, in the Boise Basin, Idaho. Under irrigation, the universal demand is for one-year-old apple trees, and they plant only a few leading commercial varieties. We are prepared to furnish these one-year-old trees in leading varieties from our nursery at Nampa, Idaho, and we have a few thousand trees of the same class for sale here at Crete at \$12.00 per hundred.

VALUES.

Extra select grade, five to six feet, each and every one a fine tree that will not fail to please, **25c each; \$3.00 per dozen.**

Four to five feet, **\$2.50 per dozen.**

Lighter trees, three to four feet, **\$12.00 per 100.**

Crab Apples--Extra Select Stock

No trees are hardier, more durable, or more productive than crab apples. They serve a wide variety of uses in the making of preserves and jellies, and for canning purposes.

At Mitchell, within twenty miles of the Wyoming line, Ed. Scriven marketed \$8.00 worth of Whitney No. 20 crabs from a single tree in spite of the ice storm of April 29th of that year.

WHITNEY NO. 20.—Large, more like a medium sized fine flavored apple. Good to eat as well as for canning and preserving. Yellowish green, red striped. A great bearer and very hardy. August.

One of our customers, Morris Stearly, Buffalo County, picked 19 bushels of Whitneys from one tree in one season.

FLORENCE.—Hardy, productive, beautiful color. We can supply other varieties also.

Extra select grade, 5 to 6 feet. Our best. **25 cents each. \$3.00 per dozen.**
4 to 5 feet. **20 cents each. \$2.40 per dozen.**

Cherries--Extra Select Stock

Cherries are especially adapted to Nebraska. They come into bearing quickly, yield abundantly, succeed universally, and are so easily grown that no one need be without this, the most popular of fruits.

HARDY ROOTS.

Our trees are all budded on Mahaleb stock which makes an exceptionally desirable root and does not sprout.

Our Extra Select trees commence bearing in two years.

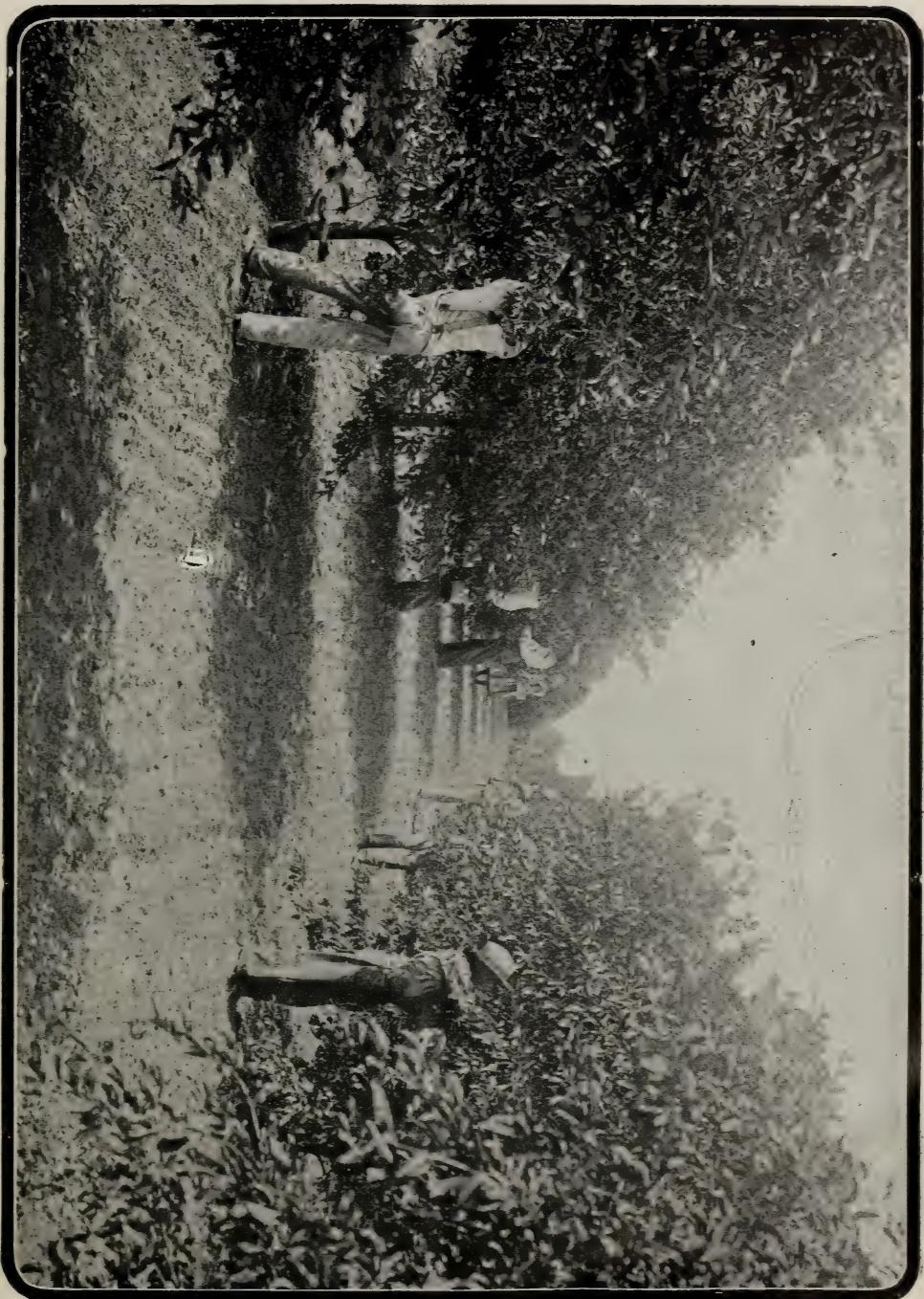
One of our orchards yielded \$4.00 from single trees the sixth season after planting. At the age of eleven years single trees gave us three and one-half bushels, and eighteen years 100 quarts. We have raised single crops of 400, 500 and 700 bushels each.

"Am much pleased with the trees I received two years ago. All are growing. The cherries bore excellent fruit last season. I will be glad to help advertise your nursery stock at any time." Lancaster County, MRS. J. B. DAY.

"Last spring I ordered of you nursery stock amounting to \$20.00. The goods were received in first-class shape and every one of the trees are growing. I am so well pleased that next spring I expect to give you another order and will recommend you to all my friends." Dawes County, Neb. ERNEST M. SLATTERY.

FIVE YEAR CHERRY ORCHARD—CRETE NURSERIES.

Yield 110 Bushels Annually. Cultivated 12 to 20 Times With Disc Harrow and Acme Pulveriser.



Having planted more than 3,000 cherry trees in partnership commercial orchards extending from eastern Nebraska up to near the Wyoming line, and having successfully grown some of the most productive orchards in the state, we note that a first-class one-year-old cherry tree with a caliper very nearly the same as a first-class two-year-old is an excellent tree for central and western Nebraska.

Doubtless such of our customers as reside in town will prefer to plant the extra heavy two-year-old cherry. They are the strongest and best rooted lot of two-year cherry trees we have seen in forty years; straight, smooth, of the very best quality, and notwithstanding their extra vigor and quality we are prepared to furnish them at the very low price of **\$5.00 per dozen**. We do not advise the planting of the English Morello in southeastern Nebraska but west of North Platte, under their arid conditions, the English Morello will be found quite healthy, a late bloomer and very productive.

EARLY RICHMOND.—The well known early red cherry. Ripens first. Very productive.

MONTMORENCY.—Ripens next. Not so productive as Early Richmond but larger size and finer quality.

ENGLISH MORELLO.—Late, black, last to ripen. Rich for canning. Subject to shot hole fungus east of North Platte.

Stick to these well tried, thoroughly proven varieties. Let others experiment. Sweet varieties and Dukes will not succeed in Nebraska.

Extra heavy two-year, choice trees **50c each; \$5.00 per dozen**.

Heavy grade from the one-year rows which we term Low Head, **35c each; \$4.00 per dozen; \$30.00 per hundred**.

A lighter grade, one-year and also two-year trees, **30c each; \$3.00 per dozen; \$20.00 per hundred**.

Plums--Extra Select Stock

The cultivation of plums is rapidly increasing. A family supply of this juicy fruit can be grown on a small space since they succeed best in a group or cluster where they can pollenate one another.

We have found it advantageous to mix several varieties so as to secure a continual supply of pollen during the blooming season.

TRIMMING.

The plum tree in Nebraska is vigorous in growth and requires cutting back each spring to prevent an overweight of fruit at the ends of long branches. Trimming back produces a stockier tree and prevents splitting.

FOR NORTHERN AND WESTERN PLANTING.

FOREST GARDEN.—Medium size, bears young and profusely. Hardy and very desirable.

HAWKEYE.—Very large, dark red, hardy and productive.

WOLF.—Large, dark red, fine for cooking and canning because free stone. Vigorous grower. Very hardy.

WYANT.—Purplish red. Large Iowa origin. Excellent quality, hardy and very productive.

SURPRISE.—Highly esteemed in Minnesota.

First class trees, 5 to 6 feet, **40c each; \$4.00 per dozen**.

Medium trees, 4 to 5 feet, **30c each; \$3.50 per dozen**.

In less supply, trees 3 to 4 feet, **25c each; \$3.00 per dozen**.

"Nursery stock has arrived in fine condition. Am surprised at the thriftiness of the stock sent me. Please accept my sincere thanks."

Omaha, 4-30, 1908.

J. L. ALVISON.

Peaches

The peach in our branch orchards has been successfully fruited as far west as Lincoln county. In the David Hunter partnership orchard, 318 miles west of Omaha, peach trees that have now been twelve years planted on poor, sandy land, are still bearing. There was a yield of 80 bushels in 1909. To endure successfully in that western climate, the tree should be grown on very poor land to make sure that it will ripen early in autumn and be dormant before the first cold waves. It is quite likely to succeed under the partial wind shelter afforded when planted in towns and home yards. In town planting, they should be planted on the bleaker exposures to increase the probability of the tree not blooming too early or having the wood unripe at the first blast of winter.

VARIETIES.

ALEXANDER.—Tree vigorous. Productive. Very early. Hardy.

EARLY RIVFRS.—One of the best early. Season late July.

GREENSBORO.—Second early. Free-stone. Very productive. Hardy. Early August

CHAMPION.—Large. Creamy white, with red cheek. Free-stone. Late August.

ELBERTA.—Large. Widely planted for commercial use. Season early September

Extra Select trees, 5 to 6 feet, 25c each. \$3.00 per dozen.

4 to 5 feet, 20c each; \$2.50 per dozen.

3 to 4 feet, 16c each; \$2.00 per dozen.

Pears

Pears, like peaches, have a tendency to put on too much wood, and should be planted in the poorest soil and most exposed situations. Do not apply manure or other fertilizer, but use an abundance of coal ashes. A wagon load to each four trees is not too much.

If pear trees are intelligently handled, fruit can be grown almost every season. We have not failed in growing pears for many years. We find that to keep them from blighting, they must be grown under such conditions as will give them a slow, well ripened growth. That means that after the first two or three years, they should not be cultivated, or but very slightly. Our bearing pear trees have not been cultivated for many years. This compels them to make slow growth, to mature their wood in autumn and guards against that rank growth which invites blight.

The following varieties will be found quite reliable:

FLEMISH BEAUTY.—Large, juicy, rich. September.

SECKLE.—Yellowish brown. Fine grained. Fruit small, but fine quality. September.

ANJOU.—Large. Rich flavor. October to January.

KIEFFER.—Vigorous grower. Should be pollinated by other varieties. Large; best for cooking. October.

First class trees, 5 to 6 feet, 40c each; \$4.50 per dozen.

4 to 5 feet, 35c each; \$4.00 per dozen.

Grapes

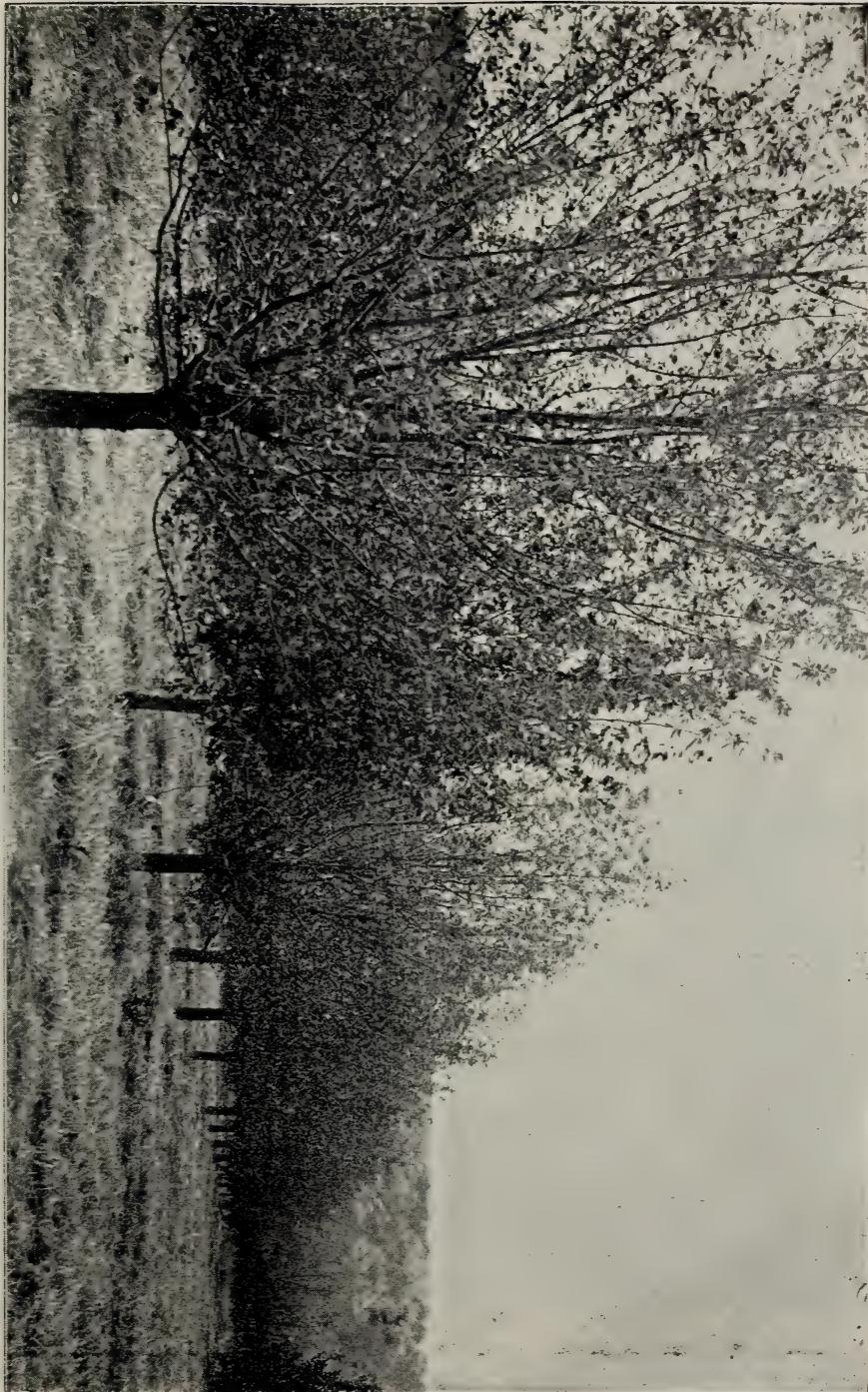
The grape is one of the quickest and surest of small fruits. It can be planted anywhere and hillsides, unsuited to other crops, make good vineyards. Enriching the soil with manure or any other fertilizer produces the finest fruit.

Mr. J. W. Walker, foreman, is showing fruitful vines in one of our vineyards. To secure best results, plow deep, fertilize, plant strong vines, cultivate, spray with Bordeaux.



VIEW OF SIX-YEAR-OLD PEACH ORCHARD—CRETE NURSERIES.

Early Bearing Varieties, Loaded to the Ground in Autumn of Sixth Year. Please Notice—NOT safe to give clean cultivation. Trees not cultivated less liable to blight.



PRUNING AND COVERING.

No other fruit requires so severe pruning as the grape. Cut off three-quarters of the new wood each fall, leaving but five or six buds on each new lateral. During November cover the vines with earth, or straw and earth, as a winter protection.

AN ABUNDANCE OF ROOTS.

The vines we offer are not light stock such as could be sent by mail. The tops are well developed, with strong, healthy buds. The roots are long and heavy. Vines so equipped sometimes fruit the first season.

"THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING."

In the dry season of 1904 we marketed from our successful and productive vineyards, forty-five hundred and fifty baskets; a yield which amounted to about \$136 per acre. Have never had a complete failure in nineteen years.

MOORE'S EARLY.—The earliest black grape. Large, with delicious flavor.

WORDEN.—Black, ripens after Moore's Early. A fine flavored seedling of, and improvement upon the Concord.

CONCORD.—Black, ripens after Worden. Most popular, most productive of all.

EMPIRE STATE, NIAGARA, ELVIRA, ripening in the order named, are the hardiest white varieties.

Grapevines are graded into five grades, from Extra Select 2 year, to 2nd class 1 year. Below these grades the culls are sometimes offered at \$2.00 per 100. We offer nothing but Extra Select, the highest of the five grades.

Extra Select grade, 2-year Concord, 75c per dozen.

All other varieties, Extra Select 2 year grade, \$1.00 per dozen.

Strawberries--Extra Select Stock

A strawberry grower who raised twenty-five millions of plants last year remarked recently: "There is more gold to be found in the strawberry bed than in any other small fruit." Certain it is that nothing gives such quick and satisfactory returns with so little care as strawberries. They are the earliest fruit to ripen, and with a proper selection of varieties one may have a continual supply of this luscious fruit for a month or six weeks.

PLANT THEM IN THE SPRING.

Strawberries should always be planted in the Spring. Summer and Fall planting is unsafe and unsatisfactory in Nebraska.

OLD OR UNFERTILIZED PLANTS.

Don't get plants from your neighbor's old bed. We urge this upon you, not because we have plants to sell, but for two very important reasons.

1.—Strawberries are of two classes, staminate and pistillate. **Pistillate** varieties must be fertilized to produce fruit. The pistillate are most productive when rightly pollinated.

In nine cases out of ten your neighbor does not know which of his plants are staminate and which are pistillate. We have often seen plots of fine, healthy plants taken from old beds destitute of fruit because of lack of pollination.

2.—Strawberry plants deteriorate after three years. The older the plants the smaller and more inferior the fruit. Your friend is really doing you no kindness in giving you plants from his old bed.

"Two years ago I purchased 100 grapevines of you. You sent me 108; 107 grew. Some vines had five bunches of grapes the same season of planting. I wish to purchase more trees and vines from you the coming spring."

Harlan County.

JOHN B. YARNELL.



Elevated tank, showing method of pumping water into a 1,200-gallon elevated tank, from which the blue vitrol tank and the lime tank are filled. Two equal streams run from these tanks, to the third from which the wagons are loaded. Gasoline engine and pump at the left, supply tank wagon at the right; an economical and effective method of preparing solutions for spraying.

SIZE OF STRAWBERRY BED.

Many persons believe a hundred or two plants sufficient for a family supply, having little idea of how small a plat that number will plant. When one reflects that an acre holds 14,000 plants set one foot apart, three feet between rows; and that five hundred plants only fill one twenty-eighth part of an acre, it is apparent that at least 500 to 1,000 plants should be set to furnish an ample family supply. The cost is very slight.

In staminate varieties Senator Dunlap is hardest and most productive.

SENATOR DUNLAP.—A well tested, wonderfully productive variety. One of the best for universal planting. Bright red, good size, excellent quality.

We prefer to plant staminate plants only, avoiding all trouble of pollinating a pistillate variety. Just as well to plant the very best variety as to plant several of less merit. We therefore advise the Senator Dunlap only.

Strawberry plants should be shipped by express separate from freight orders.

Fine, thrifty young plants; our very best, \$1.00 per 100; \$2.50 per 500; \$4.00 per 1,000. We prepay express on lots of 1,000 and upward.

Raspberries--Extra Select Stock

WILL BEAR FRUIT THE FIRST SEASON.

Probably the average planter fails to grow a smaller percentage of raspberry plants, as ordinarily received, than of any other class of stock. This is due to the fact that the black cap raspberry propagates from tips of the cane of the present season's growth. These tips, accidentally covered by a little soil, as in Nature's plan, or purposely covered with two inches of soil by the planter, form a little mass of fine, fibrous roots at the extreme tip of the cane. When these plants are dug, tied up and shipped to the intending planter, they have perhaps ten or twelve inches of the old cane. The intending planter plants these the same as he would any other tree or plant; forgetting that under Nature's method these tips were grown at a depth of perhaps not more than an inch or two below the surface. If planted four inches deep, as they would be very likely to be in the hands of the average planter, and then perhaps a rain crusts the ground, or the plant may not be strong enough to force its way through four inches of earth, the plant is lost.

They are almost certain to grow with reasonable care. Those who enjoy this rich fruit—and who does not?—can now, by using plants of this character, plant with success, and they will find the raspberry can be grown as readily as any other fruit.

Of the numerous varieties claiming attention from the public, we are prepared to send out the following this season:

CUMBERLAND.—Black cap, largest raspberry known, fruit frequently 7-8 to 15-16 inches in diameter. The plant is vigorous and productive, strong grower, reasonably hardy, one of the most profitable black caps both for home and market use.

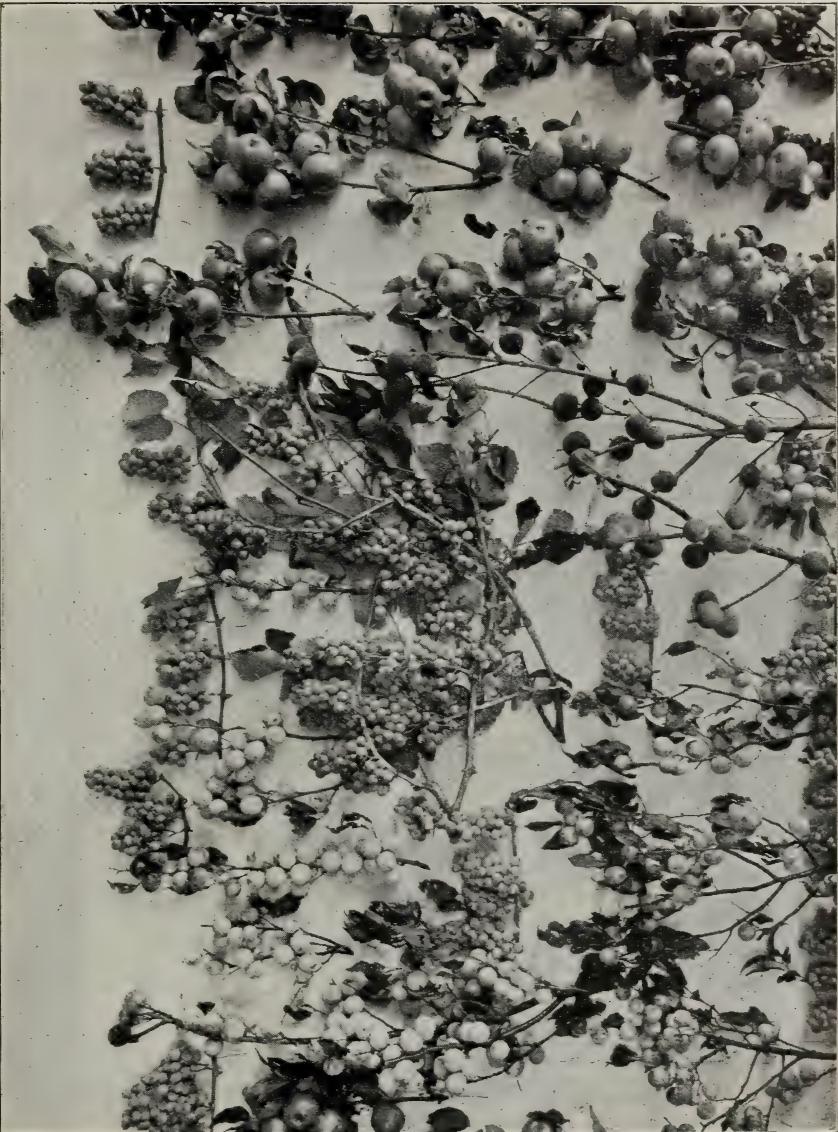
Many planters enjoy the red varieties and among these, **THE KING** is one of the most desirable, and we can furnish this variety in strong transplants, vigorous plants that will bear fruit the first season.

These strong, vigorous, transplanted plants, both of Cumberland, black cap, and The King, the red variety, we can supply at the low rate of 75c per dozen; 50 plants for \$2.50 and 100 plants for \$4.00.

"I wish to thank you for shrubs sent with my order. All are growing and I hope in due season to gather flowers from them."

Buffalo County.

EDWARD CRONAU.



Grapes, Plums and Summer Apples. Season Late August.
Grown in Orchards Connected with Crete Nurseries

Blackberries--Extra Select Stock

The secret of raising blackberries successfully is the straw mulch. Cultivate the plants the first summer. In the fall surround them with a straw mulch 12 inches deep. Let this remain on the ground and add to it every winter as it settles.

During the summer this mulch holds the moisture, keeping the ground underneath moist and cool. It also prevents the growth of weeds. In the winter it protects the plants.

Many of our customers are raising an abundance of blackberries by this method where previously they failed. Our own plantation handled in this manner is yielding at the rate of 100 bushels per acre.

SNYDER.—The best known and most universally planted blackberry of all. Exceedingly productive and very hardy. Extra Select plants, **75c per dozen; \$4.00 per 100.**

MERSEREAU.—A fine, new, mid-season berry, valuable here. If the customer resides in southeastern Nebraska desirable; not hardy in the west half of the state. Extra Select plants **\$1.00 per dozen.**

Currants--Extra Select Bushes

Our currants are not slips or cuttings that could be sent by mail, but are fine, heavy bushes, that commence bearing the second year.

POMONA.—A late, red currant of good quality. Especially esteemed by western growers.

WILDER.—A fine new currant. Bunches and berries of large size. Bright red color. Splendid quality.

RED DUTCH.—Standard red.

Pomona and Wilder, **\$1.00 per dozen.**

Red Dutch, **75c per dozen.**

Gooseberries--Extra Select Bushes

As in the case with currants, our gooseberries are heavy, well rooted, two-year-old bushes, that commence bearing the second year.

HOUGHTON.—The well known red gooseberry, productive and of good quality.

DOWNING.—Berry very large; and of light green color. A handsome, productive bush. Berries hang thick in close rows underneath.

Extra Select grade. Fine heavy bushes. Houghton, **\$2.00 per dozen.** Downing, **\$2.50 per dozen.**

The supply of gooseberry bushes in the United States is very short this season. Hence higher prices.

Asparagus and Rhubarb Or Pie Plant

It requires about 100 asparagus and 25 rhubarb plants for a family supply. We send the best.

Asparagus, **\$2.00 per 100.** Rhubarb, **\$1.00 per dozen roots.**

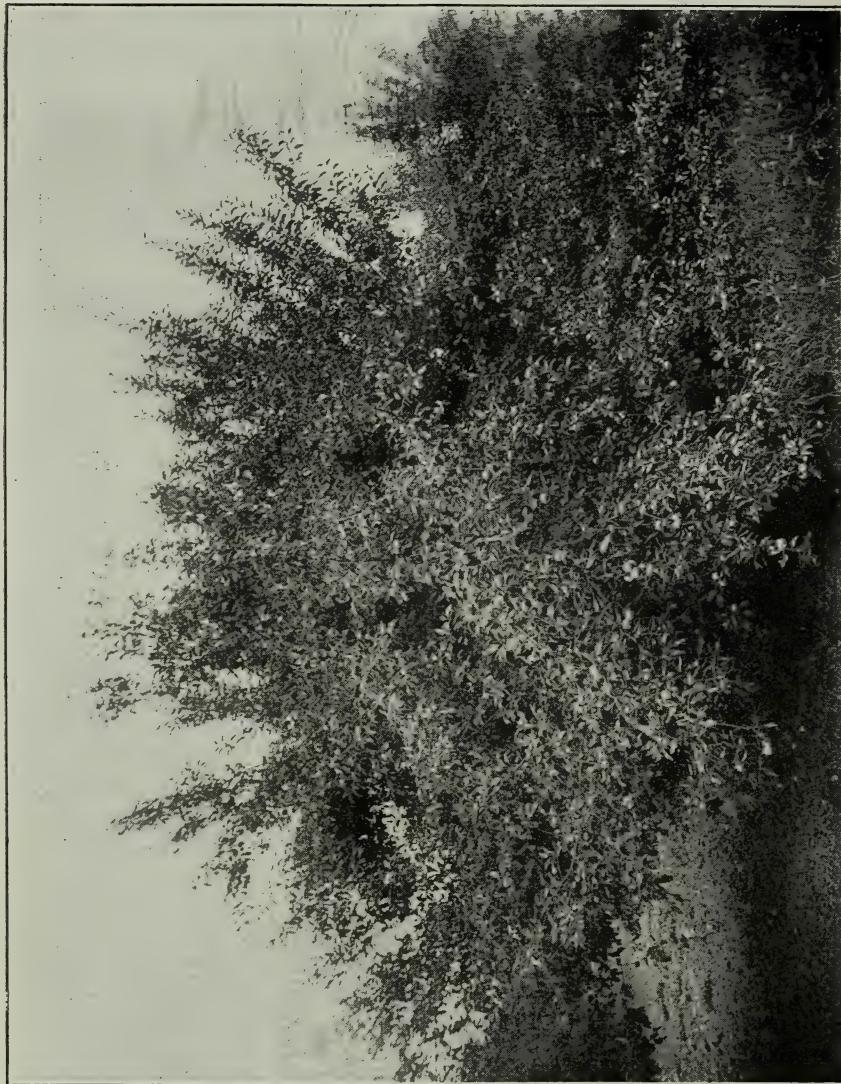
"Stock arrived in good shape. Set them out next morning. We are proud of them and grateful to you." Custer County. W. E. MATTHEWS.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs

We carry a strong line of ornamental trees and shrubbery. The quality of



Elm trees planted along the street in front of Crete Nurseries Office and packing grounds. These trees are from 82 to 88 inches in circumference Spread of branches 50 feet.



BEN DAVIS APPLE TREE

Planted Spring 1873, with a gradually increasing yield, we were enabled in 1909 to gather 39 bushels of apples from this single tree which sold for more than \$25.00.

"The trees invoiced by you April 4, have come to hand by express. They seem to be in very good condition. Your promptitude in filling order and making shipment is appreciated. Check to cover is enclosed. Kindly sign accompanying voucher in duplicate, and return to this office." Bell Ranch, New Mexico. C. M. O'DONEL.

"I am very much pleased with the trees received of you as well as plants; particularly fifty hardy roses ordered last year, all of which lived and bloomed splendidly the same season." Seward County. F. P. TIPTON.

the stock we carry and our care in handling and packing, has given us almost the entire ornamental work of the Burlington railroad for the last twenty years.

We have a particularly strong stock of elms in sizes up to 9 to 10 feet, such choice trees as Linden, Norway Maple, Oak Leaved Mountain Ash, European Mountain Ash, Carolina Poplar and Cottonwood, we carry a full supply.

In shrubs and roses, we carry the hardiest and most reliable. We beg to call attention to such plants as Berberis, Thunbergii, Purple Berberry, Ibotia Privet, suited to planting in ornamental hedges.

ELM.—Everyone is familiar with the elm. Its hardihood, its fine spreading branches and above all its durability, make it the most desirable of shade trees. The grand and venerable old elm under whose protecting shade Washington took command of the Continental Army is still standing in Cambridge.

If you wish to plant a tree which shall not only be a source of pleasure to yourself, but to future generations, plant the elm. We offer it in sizes to suit everyone.

Ornamental Trees

Carefully grown stock. Nothing can take the place of fine shade trees in improving property. The list below has been carefully trained in the nursery; are straight, smooth and evenly branched. They are especially adapted to lawn and street planting.

The Yellow Cottonwood of the Missouri River is hardier than the Poplars. Very symmetrical and rapid in growth, perfectly hardy in far western Nebraska, far superior to the western types of cottonwood. It has been tested in extreme western Nebraska and is being planted very freely in the west half of the state. 10 to 12 feet, 50c each; 9 to 10 feet, 35c each; 8 to 9 feet, 30c each; 7 to 8 feet, 25c each.

CAROLINA POPLAR.—Is regarded as the fastest growing of all poplars.

The future saw timber of western Nebraska. Some of our customers regret not having planted forty acres for timber. Attains a height of three to nine feet at one year, twelve to fourteen feet at two years. Useful as shade trees, avenues and in groves for wind-breaks.

SYCAMORE.—This tree has been planted with satisfaction in eastern parts of Nebraska. We can furnish a few very heavy trees 10 to 12 feet, at 50c each.

CATALPA SPECIOSA.—Eight to nine feet, 35 cents; seven to eight feet, 20 cents.

ELM.—Nine to ten feet, 50 cents; seven to eight feet, 35 cents; six to seven feet, 25 cents.

SOFT MAPLE.—Nine to ten feet 35 cents.

BOX ELDER.—Seven to eight feet, 25 cents; six to seven feet, 20 cents; four to five feet, 15 cents; two to three feet, 5 cents.

LINDEN.—A rapidly growing, beautiful tree, with rich green foliage and fragrant flowers. Symmetrical in growth. Very choice. Seven to eight feet, 50 cents; six to seven feet, 40 cents.

"I wish to thank you very much for the extra trees and plants sent me last year. They are the best I ever planted, and doing well. I was pleased, as you will see by my increased order for this season." **CLAY COUNTY. MRS. E. E. SILVER.**

"The nursery stock arrived in good condition and is excellent. One could scarcely wish for better!" **BUFFALO COUNTY. LAWRENCE BROWN.**

TREES MUST BE TRIMMED WHEN PLANTED.

The proper way. From left to right of photo. Whitney crab trimmed. Extra Select Ironclad apple not trimmed. The same trimmed. Select Grade apple trimmed. Extra Select cherry trimmed. The same not trimmed. Extra Select yearling cherry not trimmed. Peach, 6 to 7 feet, trimmed. Extra Select yearling cherry trimmed. Peach, 6 to 7 feet and 5 to 6 feet, not trimmed. Three peaches trimmed. Extra Select plums, trimmed and untrimmed.



NORWAY MAPLE.—Seven to eight feet, 50 cents.

CAROLINA POPLAR.—Nine to ten feet, 30 cents; eight to nine feet, 25 cents; seven to eight feet, 15 cents; five to seven feet, \$8.00 per hundred.

MOUNTAIN ASH.—Seven to eight feet, 40 cents; six to seven feet, 30 cents.

OAK LEAVED MOUNTAIN ASH.—Six to eight feet, 50 cents.

Forest Trees--Strong, Heavy Seedlings

ELM.—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$1.00 per hundred.

RUSSIAN MULBERRY.—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$1.00 per hundred. In eastern Nebraska, plant for shelter belts and to feed the birds. Not hardy west.

COTTONWOOD.—Plants eighteen to twenty-four inches, 50 cents per hundred; \$4.00 per thousand.

COTTONWOOD.—Two to three feet 2 year, \$1.00 per hundred; \$7.00 per thousand.

COTTONWOOD.—Three to four feet, 2 year, \$1.50 per hundred.

HONEY LOCUST.—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$1.00 per hundred; two to three feet, 2 year, \$2.00 per hundred.

BLACK LOCUST.—We have a superior stock of black locust, plants well ripened, carefully wintered in earth, in the best of condition. Eighteen to twenty-four inches, 50 cents per hundred; \$4.00 per thousand.

CATALPA SPECIOSA.—We have planted some 2,000,000 of these trees on contracts. We annually gather seeds from trees of our own planting. We believe our strain of seed to be Speciosa, or hardy variety. The demand for this tree is rapidly increasing. The Union Pacific Railroad Company planted 100,000 of them last spring near North Platte. Plants twelve to eighteen inches, \$1.00 per hundred; \$5.00 per thousand.

RUSSIAN GOLDEN WILLOW.—Very valuable for securing a quick, dense wind-break. One row of R. G. Willow, will check wind and snow as effectively as three or four rows of ash. We quote them as follows: Plants two to three feet, \$3.00 per 100.

Roses--Heavy Two-Year Old Bushes

These are very different from the tiny roses sent out from green houses which require extreme care. Our roses are all grown in the field where they are cultivated like corn. In this manner they become thoroughly inured to cut-door culture.

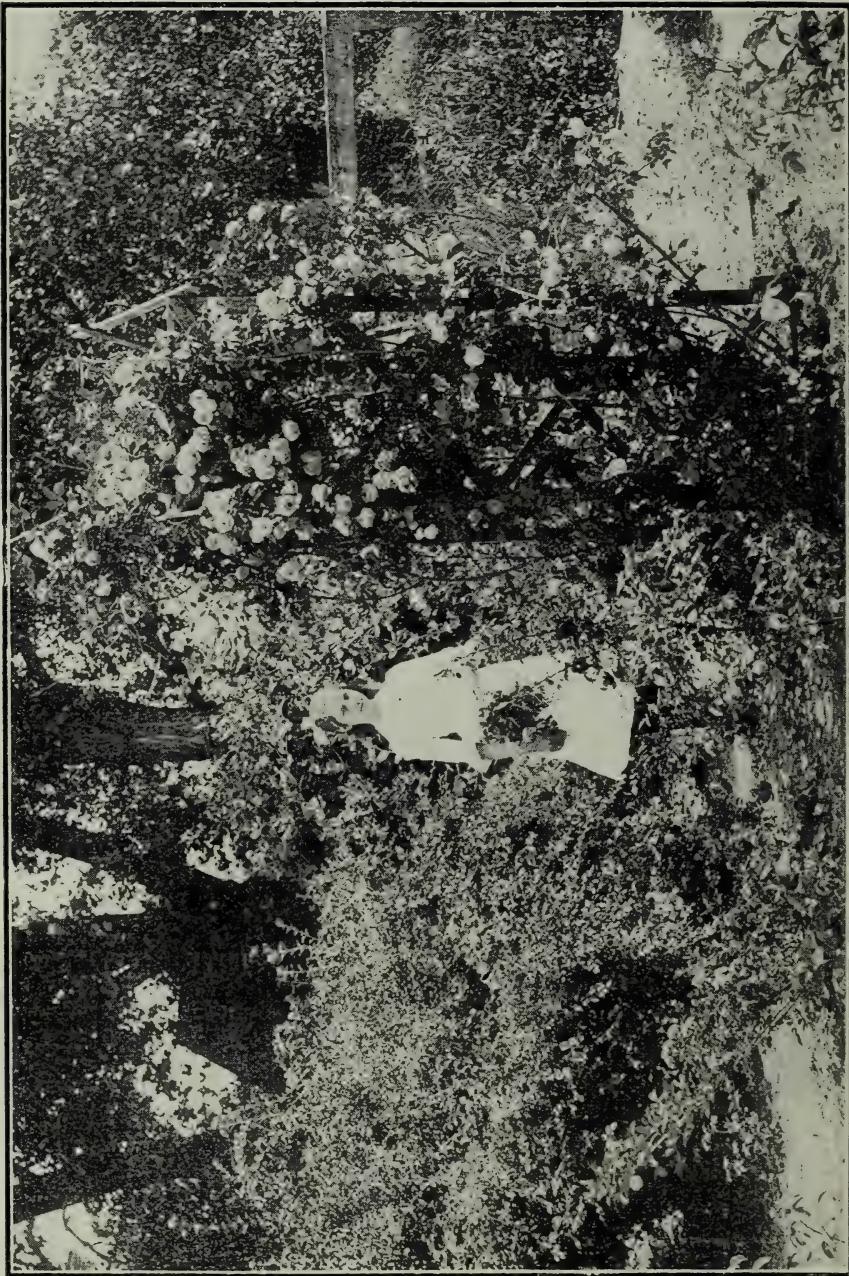
We send them out as fine, heavy, well developed bushes, that often blossom freely the first summer.

Soil Preparation.—Spade to a depth of twenty inches an area large enough to contain the number of roses or shrubs desired. Mix in fine old manure thoroughly and make the whole very fine. After planting be sure to maintain a mulch of fine soil by frequent cultivation. Water abundantly, but underneath the surface. Otherwise the surface will soon bake.

Winter Care.—The roses we offer will stand out over winter and do not require taking up. Protect the roots with ample mulching, using fine, old

FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE

ESTHER STEPHENS IN HER MOTHER'S GARDEN, SPIREA VAN HOUTII AT HER RIGHT.



manure, leaves or hay. It is best to tie up even hardy roses before winter sets in. A little care will render them perfectly safe.

BALTIMORE BELLE.—Pale blush; nearly white. A climber.

PRAIRIE QUEEN.—Bright pink; very hardy. A climber.

CRIMSON RAMBLER.—Deep crimson. Most popular climber grown. Blossoms in clusters of five to twenty-five.

DOROTHY PERKINS.—In general habit closely resembles the Crimson Rambler. Beautiful shell pink. Clusters of thirty to forty flowers. A decided acquisition. A climber.

MADAM PLANTIER.—Best hardy white rose; especially good for cemetery planting.

PAUL NEYRON.—Largest pink rose grown. Very double and often six inches in diameter. A prolific bloomer.

MAGNA CHARTA.—Bright pink. Strong, upright grower.

GENERAL JACQUEMINOT.—Best and most popular velvety dark red rose.

ULRICH BRUNER.—Large crimson. One of the best.

BABY RAMBLER.—Ruby red. Blooms steadily from June to October.

SEVEN SISTERS.—Vary in color from blush to crimson. A climber.

COQUES DES ALPS.—Flesh white.

FRAU KARL DRUSCHKI.—White. One of the best.

PRINCE CAMILLE DeROHAN.—Velvety crimson.

La FRANCE.—Silvery pink.

Prices: Large, heavy, two-year-old bushes, ready to blossom 25 cents each.

SPECIAL OFFER: Twelve roses, or roses and shrubs, your own assortment, for \$3.00 and popular beautiful Crimson Rambler free.

Ornamental Shrubs

SPIREA VAN HOUTII.—Beautiful, hardy, will grow anywhere. Fine, large, heavy bushes ready to blossom abundantly at once, four years old, **35 cents**. Strong, two year bushes, **25 cents**.

SCARLET HONEYSUCKLE.—Very hardy, in bloom from June to November, **25 cents**.

HYDRANGEA.—One of the best shrubs for late summer and autumn blooming. Hardy. **25 cents**. Four to five foot tree **50 cents**.

PEONIES.—Assorted. Very hardy and desirable, **25c each**; **\$3.00 per dozen**.

SNOWBALL.—Very hardy and easily grown. Two to three feet, **25 cents**. Three to four feet, very strong and well rooted bushes, **50 cents**.

LILAC.—Purple. Two to three feet, **25c each**. Red, two to three feet, **25c each**.

"The trees and Osage plants were promptly delivered at our door one week ago. The trees did not stop growing. We were pleased with all the stock received."

Cass County.

MRS. J. A. PHEBUS.

"The order was filled with accuracy and in good shape. Thank you for selection of stock."

Clay County.

LULU A. BEALL.

OUR COUPONS SAVE TEN PER CENT

AMPELOPSIS QUINQUEFOLIA.—Virginia Creeper, very hardy, 25c each.

PURPLE LEAF BARBERRY.—Foliage and berry of a reddish purple. Fine as single shrubs or particularly beautiful as an ornamental hedge. Very hardy. Two to three feet, for lawn planting, 25c each.

Purple Leaf Barberry for hedging, twelve to eighteen inches, \$8 per 100.

BERBERIS THUNBERGII.—Best ornamental hedge, twelve to eighteen inches. Transplanted. Stocky, \$8.00 per 100.

Those who desire an ornamental hedge of privet should use Ligustrum Ibota, much hardier than either the California privet or the Privet Amurinsis. We have these in fine plants. The privet carries beautiful foliage and will be found very attractive for those who desire an ornamental border or dense hedge.

LIGUSTRUM IBOTA.—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$6.00 per hundred.

LIGUSTRUM OVALIFOLIUM.—Commonly known as California privet.

Strong plants eighteen to twenty-four inches, (Not hardy in western Nebraska.) \$5.00 per hundred.

CORNUS SIBERICA.—Red Dogwood, 35 cents.

This shrub carries a brilliant, carmine color, very attractive in winter.

CLEMATIS.—Jackmanii, purple, 50 cents.

Clematis Ramona, lavender, 40 cents.

Clematis, Paniculata, white, 25 cents.

Clematis Paniculata blooms profusely late in the season and is useful for covering porches or summer houses.

Evergreens

The roots of the evergreens contain resinous sap; this on exposure to the sun, air or wind, hardens, and does not again liquify. That an evergreen should be fresh and bright in the top is not always sufficient. The roots should have been handled with such care as to retain all of their original strength and vigor. The roots of an evergreen requires a great deal more care than the roots of deciduous trees. We suggest therefore that in handling evergreens of the size of two feet, and upward, it would be far better to purchase those which we describe as "balled in earth."

In digging these the workmen take the burlap to the nursery row. The trees are dug up with a quantity of earth on the roots, and this earth is sewed up in burlap. The roots of the trees are thus protected from exposure to the air and such trees may be transplanted with confidence.

The small sizes can be packed in boxes in earth, or heavily packed in moss with safety.

BLACK HILL SPRUCE.—Twelve to fifteen inches, 25 cents each; \$3.00 per dozen. Eighteen to twenty-four inches, 35 cents each; \$4.00 per dozen.

WHITE PINE.—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, 35c each; \$4.00 per dozen.

SCOTCH PINE.—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$3.00 per dozen; two to three feet, \$5.00 per dozen.

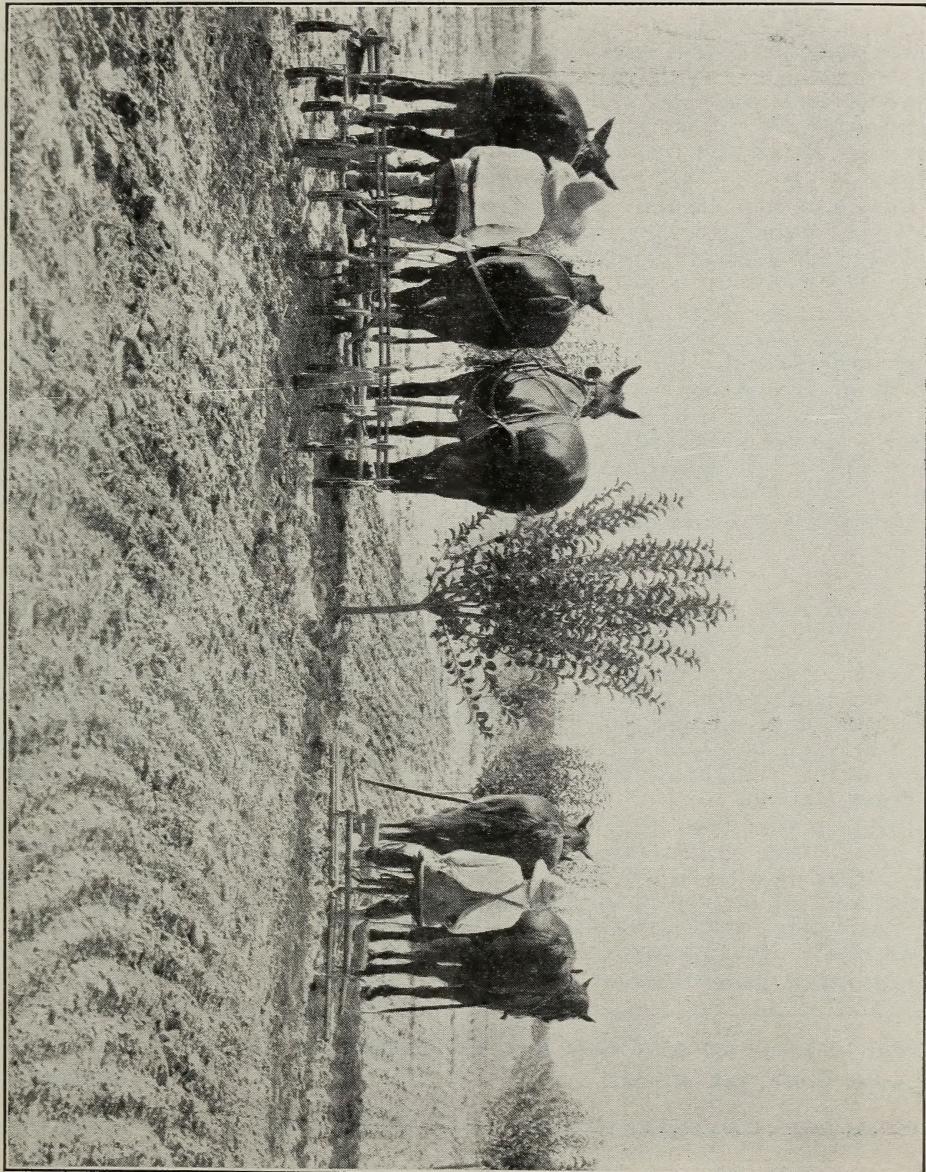
ARBOR VITAE.—Cedar, 24 to 30 inch, 35 cents each.

State Experimental Station, North Platte, Neb., May 5, 1908.

All the stock you sent us came through in fine condition. We took pains to plant it and I am sure we will get good results. The more I see of other stock, the more highly I think of the stock from the Crete Nurseries.

W. P. SNYDER, Supt. Experimental Station.

Please note our method of cultivating our young orchards. This represents third season's growth.



NORWAY SPRUCE.—Twelve to eighteen inches, \$2.00 per dozen; eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$3.00 per dozen.

THE PLANTER SHOULD STUDY.

First: How to handle the soil. He should read Campbell's Scientific Farmer, published at Lincoln. This journal gives more attention to the problems connected with the cultivation of the soil, suitable tillage and the storing of moisture than perhaps any other one journal. Please notice our arrangement with this journal, by which if you send us an order for \$6.00 worth of trees or plants, and remit therefor, we will subscribe for this journal for one year for you. This journal is published monthly.

Note also that customers who send us an order for \$10.00 worth of nursery stock, accompanied by cash, can elect to have us subscribe for them for the Twentieth Century Farmer, published at Omaha, an excellent journal published fifty-two times a year.

Also on same terms for the Nebraska Farmer, published at Lincoln, fifty-two times a year. This excellent journal, under present management, with a strong business and editorial force, is taking very high rank among agricultural journals of the West.

Our Bohemian friends should read the Hospodor, an attractive and interesting journal published at Omaha. This journal is very ably edited, very enterprising in all departments and in addition to giving a discussion to all forms of agricultural effort, aims to carry a strong horticultural department.

Notice our optional coupon offers enclosed herewith.

How to Plant

PREPARATION OF THE GROUND.

Since we are all very busy it is well to do as much team work as possible in preparing the ground for planting. After having thoroughly plowed the ground and done all that can be done in plowing, pulverizing, and harrowing, hand labor can be saved by cross marking and then running the lister to the utmost depth possible to attain. Then plant the trees at the intersection of the cross marking.

Plant all fruit trees from 4 to 6 inches deeper than they grew in the nursery row. Plant without the use of water until the earth has been filled in three inches over the roots and thoroughly tramped. Leave a basin surrounding the tree. If the soil is not sufficiently moist add two pails of water to each tree. After this water has soaked away then finish filling the hole, leaving the surface loose. Never tramp the wet soil.

Cultivation gives the best mulch of all. If you can give frequent culture

"Out of about 100 fruit trees sent last spring, only two failed to grow. The rest seem hardy and strong."

C. J. OSBORN.

"Trees arrived all right. I think they are about the nicest I ever received from you."

N. C. McPHERIN.

"I received trees today and they are the finest I have received in the last 20 years. They are well worth the price."

S. HUNZIKER.

STOCK GUARANTEED TO REACH YOU IN PERFECT CONDITION

you will have the best possible mulch. If circumstances are such that you cannot or likely will not do this then mulch with stable litter or any material that will prevent the loss of moisture.

TREATMENT OF TREES WHEN RECEIVED.

The bundles should be opened immediately and the roots dipped in water. It is helpful to bury trees root, body and branch in moist earth. In this way trees recover some of the sap lost in digging and transporting. At the very least, the roots and the trunks of the trees should be buried in moist earth for a couple of days, shading the tops with wet straw. When planting take up only a few at a time.

TRIMMING.

See cut of trees untrimmed and trimmed.

I wish we knew how to emphasize this point so it would ring in the ears of every intending planter. **TREES MUST BE TRIMMED WHEN PLANTED.**

It is of the utmost importance that each kind of tree is trimmed in accordance with its needs. With apple trees shortened back three-fourths of the growth of the side branches, leave a dominant center so that the next set of branches will be at least a foot above the present set of branches.

Cherry trees should be shortened as to the side branches to 3 to 5 strong buds. Peach trees should have the branches shortened to one bud at the base of the branch and the trunk of the peach tree, no matter if 5 or 6 feet in height, should be shortened to 30 inches.

Packing

We aim to throw in enough extra trees and plants to cover possible loss in transplanting. In calling on customers I often find more living trees and plants than were purchased.

The prices annexed include packing and delivering to our express or freight office free of charge. All stock will be carefully packed in boxes or bales, save large lots packed in bulk. We guarantee all stock to be packed to reach customer in good order.

Correspond Early

before the big rush of delivery, remember that it is difficult to answer correspondence as fully as might be desired while packing thousands of orders in the few short weeks of the spring. We invite anyone who may receive this catalogue to feel perfectly free at all times to write us for information upon such horticultural subjects as they may be interested in.

We may not be able to answer all questions to your entire satisfaction, but you are freely welcome to such knowledge as we possess.

**Address All Correspondence to
E. F. Stephens, Proprietor Crete Nurseries
CRETE, NEBRASKA**



E. F. Stephens and son Frank G., inspecting one of the Young Orchards Making Third Season's Growth.